

1. In a computerized system that includes one or more mobile devices and an electronic message server supporting wireless communication, wherein at least some of the mobile devices have an input system that is optimized for numeric input rather than text input, and wherein at least some of the mobile devices are capable of sending and receiving electronic messages, a method of composing an electronic message using a mobile device, the method comprising the acts of:

receiving a command to begin composing an electronic message;  
receiving a command to add audio content to the electronic message;  
diverting to a temporary storage, an audio content stream received at an audio input;  
storing the audio content stream in a format that is compatible with adding audio content to the electronic message; and  
attaching the formatted audio content to the electronic message.

2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the mobile device comprises a phone and the temporary storage comprises a temporary data file, and wherein the audio content stream received at the audio input is generated by a user speaking into the phone's mouthpiece.

3. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the electronic message comprises an electronic mail message, and wherein the formatted audio content is attached as an electronic mail attachment.

1           4.     A method as recited in claim 3, wherein the electronic mail message is  
2 composed in either replying to or forwarding a specific electronic mail message, the method  
3 further comprising the act of receiving the specific electronic mail message.

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5           5.     A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the total amount of audio content  
6 that may be stored in temporary storage is limited to a predetermined maximum, the method  
7 further comprising the act of displaying a progress indicator to show a current amount of  
8 temporary storage used in storing the data stream compared to the predetermined maximum.

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10          6.     A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the format used to store the audio  
11 content stream allows for data compression, the method further comprising the act of  
12 compressing the audio content stream in accordance with the storage format.

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14          7.     A method as recited in claim 6, wherein the storage format is a WAV file  
15 format.

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17          8.     A method as recited in claim 1, wherein receiving the command to add audio  
18 content to the electronic message is based on either the selection of a user interface menu  
19 item to add audio content to the electronic message or the press of a record button.

1 9. A method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the acts of:

2 displaying an indicator that audio content has been attached to the electronic  
3 message; and  
4 displaying the size of the attached audio content.

5  
6 10. In a computerized system that includes one or more mobile devices and an  
7 electronic message server supporting wireless communication, wherein at least some of the  
8 mobile devices have an input system that is optimized for numeric input rather than text  
9 input, and wherein at least some of the mobile devices are capable of sending and receiving  
10 electronic messages, a method of composing an electronic mail message using a wireless  
11 telephone, the method comprising the acts of:

12 receiving a command to begin composing an electronic mail message;  
13 receiving a command to add audio content to the electronic mail message;  
14 diverting to a temporary storage, an audio content stream received at a  
15 wireless telephone voice input;  
16 storing the audio content stream in a format that is compatible with adding  
17 audio content to the electronic mail message; and  
18 attaching the formatted audio content to the electronic mail message.

19  
20 11. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the electronic mail message is  
21 composed in either replying to or forwarding a specific electronic mail message, the method  
22 further comprising the act of receiving the specific electronic mail message.  
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1 12. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein attaching the formatted audio  
2 content to the electronic mail message complies with a Multipurpose Internet Mail  
3 Extensions specification.

4  
5 13. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the format used to store the data  
6 stream allows for data compression, the method further comprising the act of compressing  
7 the data stream in accordance with the storage format.

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9 14. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the total amount of audio content  
10 that may be stored in temporary storage is limited to a predetermined maximum, the method  
11 further comprising the act of displaying a progress indicator to show a current amount of  
12 temporary storage used in storing the data stream compared to the predetermined maximum.

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14 15. A method as recited in claim 10, wherein receiving the command to add  
15 audio content to the electronic mail message is based on either the selection of a user  
16 interface menu item to add audio content to the electronic mail message or the press of a  
17 record button, the method further comprising the acts of:

18 displaying an indicator that audio content has been attached to the electronic  
19 mail message; and

20 displaying the size of the attached audio content.  
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1        16. In a computerized system that includes one or more mobile devices and an  
2 electronic message server supporting wireless communication, wherein at least some of the  
3 mobile devices have an input system that is optimized for numeric input rather than text  
4 input, and wherein at least some of the mobile devices are capable of sending and receiving  
5 electronic messages, a method of composing an electronic message using a mobile device,  
6 the method comprising steps for

7                initiating the creation of an electronic message, the electronic message to  
8 include audio content;

9                capturing audio content from an audio content stream being received at an  
10 audio input, wherein the audio content stream is generated by a user speaking into  
11 the audio input;

12                adding the audio content to the electronic message in a format that is  
13 compatible with the electronic message.

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15        17. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the mobile device comprises a  
16 telephone, and wherein the audio stream is generated by a user speaking into the telephone's  
17 mouthpiece.

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19        18. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the electronic message comprises  
20 an electronic mail message, and wherein the step for adding the audio content to the  
21 electronic message comprises the acts of:

22                formatting the captured audio content stream to be compatible with the  
23 electronic mail message; and

24                attaching the formatted audio content to the electronic mail message.

1 19. A method as recited in claim 18, wherein the electronic mail message is  
2 composed in either replying to or forwarding a specific electronic mail message, and  
3 wherein the step for initiating the creation of the electronic mail message includes the act of  
4 receiving the specific electronic mail message.

5  
6 20. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the step for capturing audio content  
7 from the audio content stream comprises the acts of:

8 diverting the audio content stream to a temporary storage; and

9 storing the audio content stream in the temporary storage.

10  
11 21. A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the temporary storage comprises a  
12 temporary data file that is limited to a predetermined maximum of the total amount of audio  
13 content that may be stored, and wherein the step for capturing audio content from the audio  
14 content stream further comprises the act of displaying a progress indicator to show a current  
15 amount of temporary storage used in storing the data stream compared to the predetermined  
16 maximum.

17  
18 22. A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the format used to store the data  
19 stream allows for data compression, and wherein the step for adding the audio content to the  
20 electronic message comprises the act of compressing the audio content stream in accordance  
21 with the storage format.

1           23.     A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the step for initiating the creation of  
2 an electronic message comprises the acts of:

3                     receiving a command to begin composing an electronic message; and  
4                     receiving a command to add audio content to the electronic message, wherein  
5 the act of receiving the command to add audio content to the electronic message is  
6 based on either the selection of a user interface menu item to add audio content to the  
7 electronic message or the press of a record button.

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9           24.     A method as recited in claim 16, wherein the step for adding the audio  
10 content to the electronic message comprises the acts of:

11                    displaying an indicator that audio content has been added to the electronic  
12 message; and  
13                    displaying the size of the added audio content.

1           25.     In a computerized system that includes one or more mobile devices and an  
2 electronic message server supporting wireless communication, wherein at least some of the  
3 mobile devices have an input system that is optimized for numeric input rather than text  
4 input, and wherein at least some of the mobile devices are capable of sending and receiving  
5 electronic messages, a computer program product for implementing a method of composing  
6 an electronic message using a mobile device, comprising:

7                     a computer readable medium for carrying machine-executable instructions  
8 for implementing the method; and

9                     wherein said method is comprised of machine-executable instructions for a  
10 mobile device performing the acts of:

11                     receiving a command to begin composing an electronic message;

12                     receiving a command to add audio content to the electronic message;

13                     diverting to a temporary storage, an audio content stream received at  
14 an audio input;

15                     storing the audio content stream in a format that is compatible with  
16 adding audio content to the electronic message; and

17                     attaching the formatted audio content to the electronic message.

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19           26.     A computer program product as recited in claim 25, wherein the mobile  
20 device comprises a phone and the temporary storage comprises a temporary data file, and  
21 wherein the audio content stream received at the audio input is generated by a user speaking  
22 into the phone's mouthpiece.  
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1           27.    A computer program product as recited in claim 25, wherein the electronic  
2 message comprises an electronic mail message, and wherein the formatted audio content is  
3 attached as an electronic mail attachment.  
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5           28.    A computer program product as recited in claim 27, wherein the electronic  
6 mail message is composed in either replying to or forwarding a specific electronic mail  
7 message, the method further comprising the act of receiving the specific electronic mail  
8 message.  
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10          29.    A computer program product as recited in claim 25, wherein the total amount  
11 of audio content that may be stored in temporary storage is limited to a predetermined  
12 maximum, the method further comprising the act of displaying a progress indicator to show  
13 a current amount of temporary storage used in storing the data stream compared to the  
14 predetermined maximum.  
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16          30.    A computer program product as recited in claim 25, wherein the format used  
17 to store the audio content stream allows for data compression, the method further  
18 comprising the act of compressing the audio content stream in accordance with the storage  
19 format.  
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21          31.    A computer program product as recited in claim 30, wherein the storage  
22 format is a WAV file format.  
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1           32.    A computer program product as recited in claim 25, wherein receiving the  
2 command to add audio content to the electronic message is based on either the selection of a  
3 user interface menu item to add audio content to the electronic message or the press of a  
4 record button.

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6           33.    A computer program product as recited in claim 25, the method further  
7 comprising the acts of:

8                   displaying an indicator that audio content has been attached to the electronic  
9 message; and

10                  displaying the size of the attached audio content.  
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